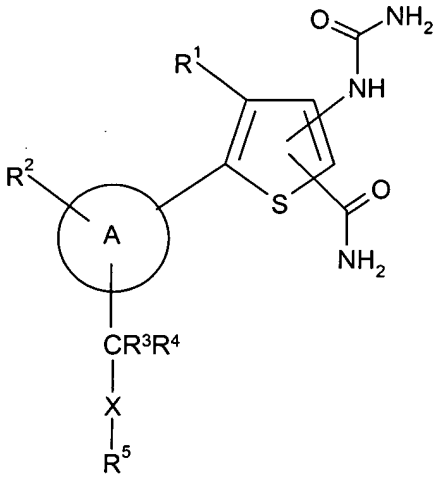
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1 represents H or CH_3;

R^2 represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C1 to 2 alkyl, trifluoromethyl or C1 to 2 alkoxy;

R^3 and R^4 independently represent H or CH_3;

or the group CR^3R^4 together represents a C3 to 6 cycloalkyl ring;

A represents a six-membered aromatic ring optionally incorporating one or two nitrogen atoms; and the group $-CR^3R^4$-X-R^5 is bonded to ring A in the 4-position relative to the thiophene ring;

X represents NR^6;

R^5 represents H, C1 to 6 alkyl, C2 to 6 alkenyl or C3 to 6 cycloalkyl; said cycloalkyl group optionally incorporating one heteroatom selected from O, $S(O)_n$ or NR^7; said alkyl group being optionally further substituted by one or more groups selected independently from CN, OH, C1 to 4 alkoxy, F, a C5 to 10 monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring system optionally incorporating one or two heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N, and said ring system being optionally further substituted by one or more substituents selected independently from halogen, C1 to 2 alkyl, C1 to 2 alkoxy or CF_3; or said alkyl being optionally further substituted by a C5 to 6 cycloalkyl ring that optionally incorporates a heteroatom selected from O, $S(O)_m$ or NR^8 and/or a carbonyl group and is optionally further substituted by OH;

R^6 represents H or C1 to 6 alkyl; said alkyl group being optionally further substituted by CN, OH, C1 to 4 alkoxy or one or more fluoro atoms;

n and m independently represent an integer 0, 1 or 2;

R^7 and R^8 independently represent H or C1 to 2 alkyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

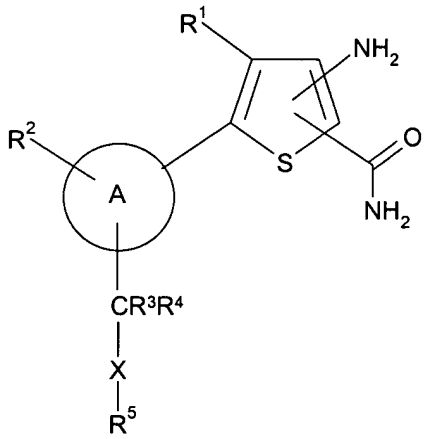
2. (Original) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, wherein R^1 represents H.

3. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, in which A represents optionally substituted phenyl.

4. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I), according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, in which R^3 and R^4 each represent H.

5. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, which comprises:

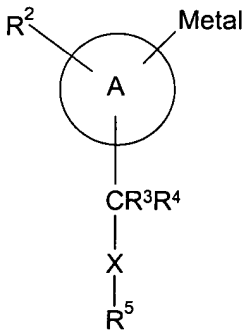
(a) reaction of a compound of formula (II):



(II)

wherein A, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^5$and X are as defined in Claim 1 with an isocyanate; or

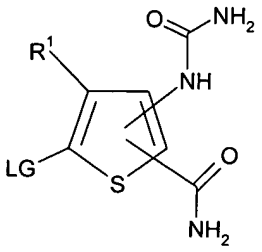
(b) reaction of a compound of formula (III)



(III)

wherein A, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and X are as defined in Claim 1,

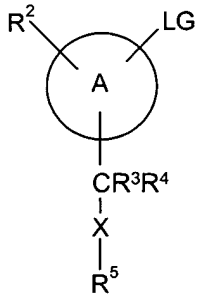
with a compound of formula (IV)



(IV)

wherein R^1 is as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group; or

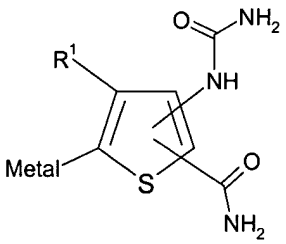
(c) reaction of a compound of formula (V)



(V)

wherein A, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and X are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group,

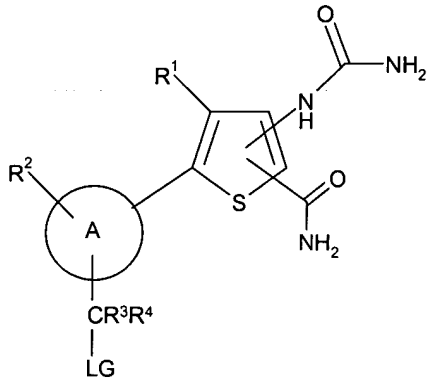
with a compound of formula (VI)



(VI)

wherein R^1 is as defined in Claim 1; or

(d) reaction of a compound of formula (VII)

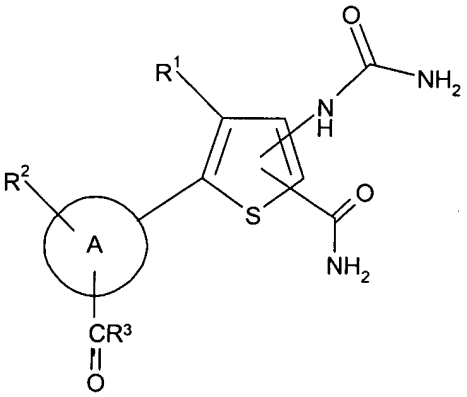


(VII)

wherein A, R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are as defined in Claim 1, and LG represents a leaving group,

with an amine of formula R^5R^6NH, wherein R^5 and R^6 are as defined in Claim 1; or

(e) reaction of a compound of formula (VIII)

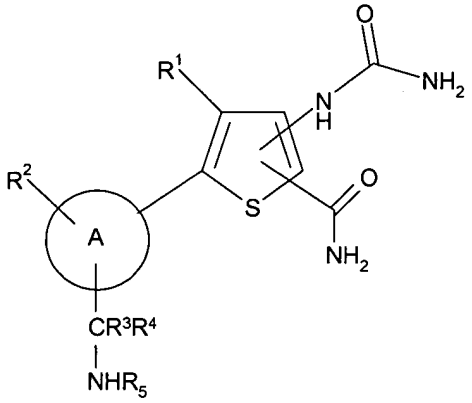


(VIII)

wherein A, R^1, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in Claim 1,

with an amine of formula R^5R^6NH wherein R^5 and R^6 are as defined in Claim 1, under reductive amination conditions; or

(f) reaction of a compound of formula (IX)



(IX)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and A are as defined in Claim 1,

with an aldehyde or ketone under reductive amination conditions;

and where necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into a further compound of formula (I); and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

6. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

7. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition adapted for administration by inhalation or insufflation[[.]] comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ Claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

8. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition ~~as claimed in Claim 6~~ which comprises mixing a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1 with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of inflammatory disease, comprising administering to a person suffering from or at risk of said disease a therapeutically effective amount [[Use]] of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in Claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4 in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of inflammatory disease~~.

12. (Currently amended) The [[use]] method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the disease is rheumatoid arthritis.

13. (Currently amended) The [[use]] method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the disease is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) A method of treating, or reducing the risk of, ~~diseases~~ a disease or ~~conditions~~ condition in which inhibition of IKK-2 activity is beneficial which comprises administering to a person suffering from or at risk of said disease or condition a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1.

16. (New) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 2, in which A represents optionally substituted phenyl.

17. (New) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 2, in which R^3 and R^4 each represent H.

18. (New) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 3, in which R^3 and R^4 each represent H.

19. (New) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 16, in which R^3 and R^4 each represent H.

20. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 15 wherein the disease is cancer.